

DWSRF Funding Program

BIL-Emerging Contaminant Funding (BIL-EC)



Program Overview:

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) authorizes increased funding to states to address emerging contaminants in drinking water with a focus on perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). With this funding, 100% of annual state appropriations must be in the form of additional subsidy (i.e., principal forgiveness) with at least 25% of the funds going towards disadvantaged communities or public water systems serving fewer than 25,000 people.

Eligible Project Activities:

The following outlines current project eligibilities for BIL-EC funding:

- For a project or activity to be eligible, it must be otherwise DWSRF eligible, and the primary purpose must be to address emerging contaminants in drinking water.
- The following emerging contaminants are prioritized for this funding: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), manganese and cyanotoxins, with the priority focus on PFAS. Future funding may allow for additional emerging contaminants.
- Public water systems must provide data to OHA Drinking Water Services confirming detection of an emerging contaminant to be eligible for BIL-EC funding. Future funding may allow for projects focused on prevention of an emerging contaminant.
- Project activities or components must be DWSRF eligible and integral to addressing the emerging contaminant of concern as identified in the Project Interest Form.
- Eligible project activities include:
 - Planning & Design: Costs for planning and design and associated pre-project costs.
 - Pilot Testing: Infrastructure related to pilot testing for treatment alternatives.
 - Treatment: Construction of a new treatment facility or upgrade to an existing treatment facility.
 - Source: Development of a new source (i.e., new/replacement well or intake).
 - Consolidation: Interconnecting two or more water systems to address the contaminant of concern.

Other project activities may be eligible but only when clearly demonstrated that it is an integral part of the project for addressing the contaminant of concern.

Ineligible Activities:

If EPA has promulgated a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for a contaminant, then a project whose primary purpose is to address that contaminant is not eligible BIL-EC funding, except for PFAS. PFAS-focused projects will be eligible for funding regardless of whether a NPDWR has been established.